

**MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT**  
**FOR THE DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL SPECTRUM FOR**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY PURPOSES**

**Submitted by the Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety**

**WHEREAS**, the Congress<sup>1</sup>, the Executive Branch (White House)<sup>2</sup> and the Federal Communications Commission<sup>3</sup> have each recognized the pressing needs of public safety entities for ample, high quality, dedicated spectrum; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 1997 Budget Act, Congress directed the Federal Communications Commission to reallocate for public safety services 24 MHz of spectrum that would be recovered from TV channels 60-69 as a result of digital television migration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission allocated this new spectrum and designed the public safety communications licensing requirements in 1998, but the broadcasters currently occupying this spectrum are not required to move from the spectrum until 2006 at the earliest; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the congressional mandates and the Commission's best intentions, recent events associated with public safety response, including the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, demonstrate tragically that public safety communications require such spectrum to deploy wireless advanced broadband high speed data and video applications, meet critical interoperability requirements, and serve the public interest today, and can not wait until 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the provision of an additional 10 MHz of spectrum (5 MHz paired), located between 746 and 764 MHz and 776 and 794 MHz, as reflected in the attached graphic, for public safety communications use would:

1. Further the national effort to meet the critical emergency response and homeland security needs of public safety entities; and
2. Enable advanced data and video communications to occur at speeds not presently available in other public safety spectrum; and

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<sup>1</sup> 1997 Budget Act of 1997, Pub. L. No. 105-33, § 3303, 111 Stat. 266. *et seq.* (1997) ("1997 Budget Act"), codified at 47 U.S.C. § 337. Subsection 303(a) directs the Commission to reallocate on a national, regional, or market basis 24 MHz in television broadcast channels 60 through 69 to public safety and mandates that the remainder of the spectrum located in the channels 60 through 69 for commercial use.

<sup>2</sup> The White House's *National Strategy for Homeland Security* calls for a "fully integrated national emergency response system that is adaptable enough to deal with any terrorist attack, no matter how unlikely or catastrophic, as well as all manner of natural disasters" and aims to "ensure that leaders at all levels of government have complete incident awareness and can communicate with and command all appropriate response personnel."

<sup>3</sup> See *Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local public Safety Agency Communications Requirements through the Year 2010*, 14 FCC Rcd 152 (1998).

3. Comport with the FCC's recent report expressing a preference for "[p]olicies that encourage grouping of spectrum 'neighbors' with technically compatible characteristics."

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the undersigned cities, counties, states and public safety associations, do hereby form the Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that as new homeland security and emergency response needs force public safety agencies to grapple with major channel capacity and interoperability problems, the Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety calls for the Commission and the Congress to ensure that additional spectrum for public safety use is available in the 700 MHz Band to address this demand.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, there is an overwhelming need for allocation of an additional 10 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz Band, to allow for use of advanced interoperable broadband data and video transmissions that serve the public interest.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety adopts the following Technical Requirements:

Spectrum:	10 MHz (2 x 5 MHz) at 700 MHz (Upper 700 MHz, block C)
Coverage:	Wide Area
Mobility:	High (Used in responder vehicles)
User Throughput:	1.5 Mbps (Downlink); 500 kbps (Uplink)
Site Throughput:	10 Mbps (Net, per site)
Connectivity:	All IP addressable
Scalability:	High, Minimal coordination burden when increasing capacity
Cost:	Comparable with existing cellular solutions

*Adopted by Members of the Spectrum Coalition for Public Safety:*

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